

SECRET**PRIORITY**

1967 DEC 18 23 15Z

OUT 63859

25X SECRET 182257Z CITE [REDACTED]

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OXCART

SUBJECT: EVALUATION OF BLACK SHIELD MISSION BX6737.

1. CAMERA TYPE I (115A), UNIT E, WAS USED ON MISSION BX6737. PROCESSING WAS ACCOMPLISHED [REDACTED] THERE ARE 832 FRAMES IN THIS MISSION. ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY FRAMES OF COVERAGE OVER WATER WERE EDITED BEFORE THE FIRST TITLED FRAME, 210 FRAMES OF CATEGORY 5 CLOUD COVERAGE WERE EDITED BETWEEN FRAMES 408-409 AND 80 FRAMES OF COVERAGE OVER WATER WERE EDITED AFTER FRAME 832.

2. BOTH CAMERAS OPERATED SATISFACTORILY THROUGHOUT THE MISSION. ALL FORWARD FRAMES ARE 2.5 DEGREES SHORT AS MEASURED BY NOMOGRAPH CHG D 7915-REV A SUPPLIED [REDACTED] THE SYSTEM OPERATED IN PROGRAMMED V/H THROUGHOUT THE MISSION. DURING STRAIGHT AND LEVEL PORTIONS OF THE FLIGHT GROUND RESOLUTIONS [REDACTED] (BAR-PLUS-SPACE) WERE ACHIEVED NEAR VERTICAL. THESE LESS THAN TYPICAL RESOLUTIONS ARE TENTATIVELY ATTRIBUTED TO A COMBINATION OF ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS, VEHICLE PERTUBATIONS, SLOW EXPOSURES, SHORT FORWARD FRAMES AND EXCESSIVE FORWARD OVERLAP.

3. A THOROUGH ANALYSIS OF THE NEGATIVES INDICATE THAT THE EXPOSURE WAS ADEQUATE AND PROCESSING GOOD NEGATIVES. THE REPRODUCTIONS ARE GOOD.

4. A ROW OF MINUTE MINUS DENSITY MARKS SPACED 2.6 INCHES APART LOCATED 1.65 INCHES FROM THE EDGE OF THE FILM OPPOSITE THE DATA BLOCK DEGRADE THE AFT CAMERA MATERIAL. THESE MARKS MAY BE CAUSED BY A SPECK OF FOREIGN MATERIAL ON ONE OF THE FOLLERS BETWEEN THE TWO SLIT APERTURES. THE FOREIGN MATERIAL DESENSITIZES THE EMULSION AND PRODUCES THE MINUS DENSITY MARKS. IF BOTH FORWARD AND AFT FRAMES WERE AFFECTED THE SUSPECTED ROLLER WOULD BE BEFORE THE FORWARD SLIT. SOME DATA BLOCKS PROTRUDE INTO THE FORWARD FORMAT INTERMITTENTLY AND SOME DATA BLOCKS ARE NOT CRITICALLY SHARP.

5. AN ANALYSIS OF THE OVERLAP MEASURED ON 20 PAIRS OF FRAMES INDICATES THAT THE RANGE IN PERCENTAGE OF OVERLAP VARIES FROM 49.60 (FRAMES 198/200; 263/265; 640/642) TO 59.37 (FRAMES 702/704). THE FILM VELOCITY ERROR VARIES ACCORDINGLY WITH A RANGE FROM MINUS 0.77 PERCENT TO IN EXCESS OF PLUS 23 PERCENT. THE OVERLAP AND FILM VELOCITIES ARE MUCH MORE ERRATIC THAN NORMALLY ENCOUNTERED ON BLACK SHIELD MISSIONS.

6. A GOOD CORRELATION WAS ACHIEVED BETWEEN THE INS DATA AND THE PHOTOGRAPHY.

7. CLOUDS OBSCURE APPROXIMATELY 70 PERCENT OF THE MISSION.

SECRET

END OF MESSAGE

NGA review(s) completed.

SECRET

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification